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A RAISE FOR NIXON CLEARED BY HOUSE

**Presidents' Pay Would Go to
\$200,000 From \$100,000
on Day of Inauguration**

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Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, Jan. 6—The House voted today to increase the pay of the President to \$200,000 a year from \$100,000, effective with the inauguration of Richard M. Nixon on Jan. 20. Senate approval is expected later this week.

The House action came on voice vote, with only a few audible no's. There was little debate.

Swift action is necessary because the salary of a President cannot be raised during his term of office.

This would mark the first pay increase for a President since Congress raised the salary

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to \$100,000 from \$75,000 20 years ago, just prior to Harry S. Truman's second term of office.

The salary of the President has been raised only three times since first set at \$25,000 a year for George Washington in 1789.

In addition to his salary, the President receives \$50,000 a year for expenses. This sum would not be changed.

The Presidential pay increase encountered little opposition on either side of the aisle in the House, although some members privately questioned whether a Republican Administration pledged to cutting Federal spending should support such a 100 per cent salary increase.

Arguing that a raise for the President is "long overdue," the House majority leader, Carl Albert, noted that "every Presi-

dent has had to reach into his own pocket to help pay expenses of office."

The Oklahoma Democrat said he had been told that Mr. Truman "left the White House broke."

But Representative H. R. Gross, Republican of Iowa, protested that the Presidential salary increase was being used as an excuse to pry loose pay rises for members of Congress and others in the Federal Government.

President Johnson, acting on the advice of a special commission established by Congress in 1967, is expected to propose such raises in his budget message to Congress, perhaps next week.

The commission, headed by Frederick Kappel, former board chairman of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company recommend the following salary levels:

Members of Congress, to \$50,000 from \$30,000; Cabinet members, to \$60,000 from \$35,000; district judges to \$47,500 from \$30,000; Associate Supreme Court Justices, to \$65,000 from \$39,500, and the

Chief Justice, to \$67,500 from \$40,000.

Members of Congress are known to fear that a \$20,000 raise in their own salaries would be politically unpopular with the voters. Many of them are urging the President to scale down the figure, perhaps to \$40,000 or \$42,500.

If the President did propose a smaller increase in Congressional salaries, he almost certainly would scale down proposed raises for the Cabinet and members of the Court.

Protesting the Presidential pay increase, Mr. Gross suggested that the nation "does pretty well" by the President.

"Did any candidate for President last year say the salary was too low?" he asked.

The answer was no.